

PARENT RESOURCE SUMMARY

Wow! What an amazing opportunity you have to help your child grow! Only camp can promote your child's development by providing fun, friendship, and leadership in a supportive community away from home. Parents have known this for nearly 150 years, but only now can they hold in their hands so much valuable information about camp. The American Camp Association has brought together the top professionals in camping to share their wisdom, insights, and advice on this site. For parents looking to maximize their child's fun and growth, this is indeed the place to start.

The American Camp Association (formerly known as the American Camping Association) is a community of camp professionals who, for nearly 100 years, have joined together to share our knowledge and experience and to ensure the quality of camp programs. Because of our diverse 6,700 plus membership and exceptional programs, children and adults have the opportunity to learn powerful lessons in community, character-building, skill development, and healthy living — lessons that can be learned nowhere else.

As a leading authority in child development, the ACA works to preserve, promote, and improve the camp experience. Our association is committed to helping our members and all camps provide:

- Camp communities committed to a safe, nurturing environment
- Caring, competent adult role models
- Healthy, developmentally-appropriate experiences
- Service to the community and the natural world
- Opportunities for leadership and personal growth
- Discovery, experiential education, and learning opportunities
- Excellence and continuous self-improvement

CAMP e-News

<http://www.campparents.org/newsletter/signup.php>

Welcome to CAMP e-News. We are pleased to share the joy of the camp experience with you and your family and to provide help finding the camp that best meets the needs and interests of your children. Whether you are looking for outdoor adventure, a sports specialty, the fine arts, or a camp that addresses your child's special needs, there are ACA-accredited camps that will expand your child's horizons and provide opportunities for personal growth. Receive timely information on the camp experience and our new e-Newsletter, CAMP: A Resource for Families Sign up at

FIND A CAMP:

http://find.acacamps.org/finding_a_camp.php

Search our database of ACA-accredited camps. Some of the most common ways to search are:

- activity / targeted focus
- affiliation / cultural focus
- camp name
- advanced search
- an ACA local office
- special needs / specialty clientele
- location
- adults and families
- printable listings

Fun And Safety — ACA Camps Set the Standard: Why an ACA Accredited Camp?

<http://www.campparents.org/funsafety.php> ACA Accreditation means that your child's camp cares enough to undergo a thorough (up to 300 standards) review of its operation — from staff qualifications and training to emergency management. American Camp Association collaborates with experts from The American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Red Cross, and other youth service agencies to assure that current practices at your child's camp reflect the most up-to-date, research-based standards in camp operation. Camps and ACA form a partnership that promotes growth and fun in an environment committed to safety.

Camp is an Adventure — Be Prepared (Camp Planner)

<http://www.campparents.org/campplanner.php>

- [Fun and Safety — ACA Camps Set the Standard](#)
- [Camp in Your Child's Future — Planning Calendar](#)
- [Right Time — Right Camp — The Perfect Fit](#)
- [Day Camp — Fun is Right Around the Corner](#)
- [There is a Camp for Every Child and Every Budget](#)
- [Travel Light — Tips on Packing and Gear](#)
- [Homesickness — Expert Advice for Parents](#)
- [Camp Visits — Making the Most of the Interview](#)
- [Grandparents' Place](#)

Camp Fairs

<http://www.acacamps.org/csv.cgi?data=fairs.csv&template=fairs.htm>

- During a camp fair, campers and parents can speak with representatives from different camps.
- Camp fairs are typically held in gymnasiums, hotels, malls, etc.
- Camp fairs are open to the public and are scheduled on weekends from November - March.

Children — Inside and Out (Expert advise)

<http://www.campparents.org/expertadvice.php>

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| • I believe in camp | Healthy kids |
| • Healthy teens | Research matters |
| • Child/Adolescent Development | Parent- Child Relationships |
| • Camp Benefits | Special Needs |
| • Advisory panel | |

CampParents Exchange: Products & Services for Families

<http://www.campparents.org/products.php>

- [It's Off to Camp, Charlie Brown](#) A brand-new collection of strips featuring the *Peanuts* gang's adventures in the great outdoors with essential how-to advice from the American Camp Association.
- [Secret Ingredients Of Summer Camp Success DVD](#) This DVD is every new camper family's roadmap to less homesickness and more fun. By Dr. Christopher Thurber.

Videos for Parents

<http://www.campparents.org/video/>

Ready, Set, Camp
There is a camp ideally suited for every child and the American Camp Association can help find the right one. (6:37)
Camps with a "Can Do" Attitude
What can parents of special needs children do to renew their child's spirits? (6:18)
Destination Camp
The traditional camp experience has been expanded to meet the needs of more and more children. (7:14)

***If you prefer to receive a printed/hard copy of the above resources,
please contact the local office***